WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A system for tracking time and date with a printer and managing that printer accordingly, the system comprising:

a printer having a clock circuit; and

one or more printer clients, each having a clock circuit;

wherein:

a printer driver of said printer client appends time/date data from said clock circuit of that printer client to a print job being transmitted to said printer; and

said printer extracts said time/date data from said print job transmission and uses said time/date data to set or adjust said clock circuit of said printer.

2.   The system of claim 1, wherein said printer compares said time/date data received with said print job to time/date data from said clock circuit of said printer or other time/date data received with other print jobs.

3.   The system of claim 2, wherein said printer rejects said time/date data if beyond a predetermined threshold relative to other time/date data received.

4.   The system of claim 3, wherein said printer rejects said time/date data if more than a standard deviation away from a sampling of other time/data data received.

5.   The system of claim 1, wherein said printer averages said time/date data received with said print job with other time/date data received with other print jobs and then sets or adjusts said clock circuit of said printer according to a resulting average of all said time/date data.

6.   The system of claim 1, wherein said clock circuit of said printer is connected to a battery as a back-up power source.

7.   The system of claim 1, wherein said printer is maintained in an operating mode during pre-defined hours and days based on output from said clock circuit of said printer.

8.   The system of claim 1, wherein said printer avoids performing a calibration procedure during pre-defined hours and days based on output from said clock circuit of said printer.

9.   A method of tracking time and date with a printer and managing that printer accordingly, the method comprising appending time/date data to a print job sent to said printer from a printer client having a clock circuit.

10.   The method of claim 9, further comprising, extracting said time/date data from said print job and using said time/date data to set or adjust a clock circuit of said printer.

11.   The method of claim 10, further comprising comparing said time/date data received with said print job to time/date data from said clock circuit of said printer or other time/date data received with other print jobs.

12.   The method of claim 11, further comprising rejecting said time/date data if beyond a predetermined threshold from said other time/date data.

13.   The method of claim 9, further comprising averaging said time/date data received with said print job with other time/date data received with other print jobs and then setting or adjusting said clock circuit of said printer according to a resulting average of all said time/date data.

14. The method of claim 9, further comprising maintaining said printer in an operating mode during pre-defined hours and days based on output from said clock circuit of said printer.

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15. The method of claim 9, further comprising avoiding performance a calibration procedure during pre-defined hours and days based on output from said clock circuit of said printer.

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16. A system of tracking time and date with a printer and managing that printer accordingly, the system comprising:

means for appending time/date data to a print job sent to said printer from a printer client having a clock circuit that outputs time/date data; and

means for extracting said time/date data from said print job and using said
15 time/date data to set or adjust a clock circuit of said printer.

17. The system of claim 16, further comprising means for comparing said time/date data received with said print job to time/date data from said clock circuit of said printer or other time/date data received with other print jobs.

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18. The system of claim 17, further comprising means for rejecting said time/date data if beyond a predetermined threshold relative to said other time/date data.

25 19. The system of claim 16, further comprising:

means for averaging said time/date data received with said print job with other time/date data received with other print jobs; and

means for setting or adjusting said clock circuit of said printer according to a resulting average of all said time/date data.

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20.   The system of claim 16, further comprising means for maintaining said printer in an operating mode during pre-defined hours and days based on output from said clock circuit of said printer.

5   21.   The system of claim 16, further comprising means for avoiding performance a calibration procedure during pre-defined hours and days based on output from said clock circuit of said printer.

22.   Computer-readable instructions recorded in a medium for storing
10   computer-readable instructions, said instructions being used by a system of tracking time and date with a printer and managing that printer accordingly, wherein said a first set of said instructions causes a processing device in a printer client device to append time/date data to a print job sent to said printer, where said printer client device has a clock circuit that outputs time/date data.

15   23.   The computer-readable instructions of claim 22, wherein a second set of said instructions causes a processing device in said printer to extract said time/date data from said print job and use said time/date data to set or adjust a clock circuit of said printer.

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24.   The computer-readable instructions of claim 23, wherein said second set of said instructions further causes said processing device in said printer to compare said time/date data received with said print job to time/date data from said clock circuit of said printer or other time/date data received with other print jobs and reject
25   said time/date data if beyond a standard deviation from said other time/date data.

25.   The computer-readable instructions of claim 23, wherein said second set of said instructions further causes said processing device in said printer to average said time/date data received with said print job with other time/date data; and set or

adjust said clock circuit of said printer according to a resulting average of all said time/date data.